

INQUIRY UPHOLDS WARREN REPORT

Finds Autopsy Photos Show
2 Shots Killed President

Discussion and summary of
report are on Page 17.

By FRED P. GRAHAM
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16—A panel of four medical experts appointed by Attorney General Ramsey Clark to examine the secret autopsy photographs of President Kennedy's body has confirmed the Warren Commission's conclusion that the President was killed by two shots from behind.

The year-old report was released tonight by the Justice Department.

The department will use the report in court here tomorrow in an attempt to block Jim Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney, from subpoenaing the photographs from the National Archives.

Mr. Garrison has charged that the autopsy material would bolster his upcoming assassination conspiracy trial against a New Orleans businessman by show-

Continued on Page 17, Column 1

Four-Doctor Panel Says Autopsy Photos

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

ing that President Kennedy was struck by bullets from the front and rear.

However, the four physicians who examined the 69 black-and-white photographs, color transparencies and X-rays disagreed with Mr. Garrison.

They are believed to be the only medical experts to have examined the material fully. The material was given to the Kennedy family immediately after the autopsy and subsequently lodged with the National Archives, with the understanding that it would be kept secret until at least Oct. 29, 1971.

A representative of the Kennedy family approved the release of the report.

President Kennedy was struck by two bullets fired from above and behind him, one of which traversed the base of the neck on the right side without striking bone and the other of which entered the skull from behind and exploded its right side," the report said.

The report pointed out that the bullet that entered President Kennedy's neck at the back left trail of fragments and internal swelling as it passed through his lung and windpipe and exited from the front of his neck.

This contradicts charges by some persons that the front-neck wound, which was widened by doctors in Dallas in efforts to aid his breathing, might have been an entrance wound.

The report also said that the head wounds were caused by a bullet that fragmented after en-

tering from the rear and slightly to the President's right. This produced "an explosive fracture of the right side of the skull as it emerged from the head," the report said — a wound that some persons have said was caused by a heavy-caliber shot from the front.

Mr. Clark ordered the new study at the request of Dr. Thornton Boswell, one of the military physicians who performed the original autopsy on President Kennedy. Dr. Boswell said that "controversy and speculation" had been stirred by doubts over the accuracy of the autopsy.

To conduct the second study, Mr. Clark selected Dr. William H. Carnes, professor of pathology at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City; Dr. Russell S. Fisher of Baltimore, chief medical examiner of the state of Maryland; Dr. Russell H. Morgan, professor of radiology at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and Dr. Alan R. Moritz, professor of pathology at Western Reserve University, Cleveland.

The Justice Department said that the examination of the secret material, on which the panel's 16-page report was based, was made last Feb. 16 and 17.

The Justice Department released with the report a statement by Burke Marshall, representative of the Kennedy family in the transaction with the National Archives, stating that Mrs. Jacqueline Onassis, the President's widow, and Senator Edward M. Kennedy, his surviving brother, "will have no comment to make on the report or its release."

Mr. Marshall said he had no objection to the release of the report because he thought that it "simply confirmed the autopsy report" included in the findings of the commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren that investigated the assassination.

The Warren Commission concluded that President Kennedy was killed in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, by two bullets fired by Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone.

This conclusion has been disputed by Mr. Garrison, who has indicted Clay L. Shaw of New Orleans on charges of conspiring with Oswald and others to kill the President.

Confirm Warren Report That Two Shots Killed

Mr. Shaw's trial is scheduled to begin Tuesday in New Orleans, and Mr. Garrison had asked the General Sessions Court here to order James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, to appear at the trial with the secret material.

With Mr. Rhoads scheduled to appear in court at 9:30 A.M. tomorrow to show cause why he should not comply, the Justice Department released the report.

In its court papers, the Justice Department contends that it agreed with the Kennedy family that the 69 photographs and X-rays would not be seen by other than authorized Government personnel until 1971 and that they would be seen

only by medical experts or scholars thereafter.

Under the agreement they will not be released to the general public during the lives of President Kennedy's immediate family.

The Justice Department objected that if items donated to the National Archives under such condition were object to court subpoenas, "public figures no longer answered that their interests will be protected when their papers are deposited in public institutions, will cease to place important and sensitive places in such institutions."

Mr. Garrison, or his representative, is expected to charge that the Kennedy family had no legal right to restrict ac-

cess to the X-rays and photographs because they were taken at Bethesda Naval Hospital by Navy personnel using Government equipment and film.

The papers made public why the Government and the Kennedy family had taken steps to shield the photographs from public view.

According to the papers the photographs show details of a wound 5.12 inches in diameter on the President's forehead, together with other pictures of the wounds. The documents state that these photographs were not shown to the three military doctors who performed the autopsy until 1967, after the photographs

were lodged with the Archives. The autopsy doctors did have the X-rays on the night of the autopsy, and they examined the body.

Among the newly released documents is a second report by the three autopsy doctors—James J. Humes, Pierre A. Finck and Dr. Boswell—who had the benefit of their first look at the photographs.

They pointed out an error in the original autopsy report that had created doubts that one bullet struck President Kennedy from above and behind and exited from his throat.

An autopsy drawing placed the back wound lower than the photographs show it to

L + —17

President

have been, they said. Because it was erroneously depicted as being too low, spectators had contended that a bullet could not have entered from above and behind and still have exited from the throat.

Garrison Aide Comments

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 16 (AP) — District Attorney Garrison's chief assistant said tonight that the release of a report on the autopsy "doesn't satisfy us." The assistant, James Alcock, said that the district attorney's office would still press for the release of the full autopsy report, including photographs and X-rays, at a court hearing in Washington tomorrow.